

zero|waste

B e y o n d C o m p o s t i n g



MORE ITEMS RECYCLED AT THE CURB!

On May 19, 2014, the collection of recycling changed throughout the Province of British Columbia.

In this region, the RDN became a collection partner with Multi-Material BC, meaning we are now able to recycle up to **15 new materials at the curbside** with other items accepted at MMBC Drop-Off Depots.



MULTI
MATERIAL
BC

PROVINCE WIDE

The new recycling opportunities are a result of changes to BC's Recycling Regulation which affect more than 1.5 million households province-wide. The changes make producers and consumers of packaging and printed paper responsible for the cost of recycling these materials instead of local governments and taxpayers. This is known as Extended Producer Responsibility or EPR. It also means that people living in over 150 electoral areas and municipalities - big and small, rural and urban - throughout the Province are part of a standardized program where the same materials are being collected. In fact in the past year curbside recycling has been introduced to 20 communities for the first time.

Residents in the region already divert more than 60 per cent of all household waste through recycling and composting. By continuing to participate in the expanded recycling program you help build on this success in reducing landfill waste.

Don't forget, these items are now included on the list of what is accepted: milk cartons, aseptic boxes (Tetra-Paks for soup, sauces etc.), frozen juice cans, aerosol cans, plastic drink cups and lids, and plastic garden pots and seedling trays.

This summer **we will be out at the curb** letting you know how you're doing when it comes to recycling. If you are putting the right items into your recycling containers we'll leave you a note thanking you for your efforts.

We appreciate it!



RECYCLABLE MATERIALS COLLECTED ONLY AT DROP-OFF DEPOTS

The region has six MMBC Drop-Off Depots that accept non-deposit glass jars and bottles, plastic bags and overwrap, and plastic foam (Styrofoam) containers, trays and cushion packaging. These items are not collected in your curbside recycling program.

The Drop-Off Depots also accept all other packaging and printed paper materials accepted through the curbside recycling program.

Parksville Bottle and Recycling Depot Ltd.

611-A Alberni Highway, Parksville Ph. (250) 248-0224

Qualicum Bottle & Recycling Depot

4-141 Fourth Ave E, Qualicum Beach Ph. (250) 752-8884

Nanaimo Recycling Exchange

2477 Kenworth Road, Nanaimo Ph. (250) 758-7777

Alpine Disposal & Recycling

2250 McGarrigle Road, Nanaimo Ph. (250) 751-1089

Regional Recycling

839 Old Victoria Rd, Nanaimo Ph. 1-855-701-7171
2375 Hayes Rd, Nanaimo

Visit www.recycling2015.ca for more information

If you are looking for information about recycling in our region be sure to visit our recycling-specific website: www.recycling2015.ca.

We have joined forces with the City of Nanaimo to update the website with fun facts, recycling success stories, and advice and resources to help you make the most of recycling opportunities in the region.



IN THIS ISSUE: Collection Trucks • Illegal Dumping • Green Bin Tips • Gardening

Beans to bones in the bin!

ON YOUR COLLECTION DAY

Why only one collection truck?

Since 2010, households have been sorting their curbside materials into three components: food waste, recyclables, and garbage. But many residents receiving the service ask how these materials are kept separate when only one truck comes by to collect their items.

The answer is specially designed vehicles called “split packers”. They have two compartments, with separate chutes for drivers to empty curbside materials. The largest compartment, **representing 70 per cent of the truck’s overall capacity, holds garbage or recyclables collected on alternating weeks.** The smaller compartment is used for weekly food waste collection.

Benefits of dual stream vehicles

Split packer trucks enabled food waste collection to be added to the curbside recycling program without requiring additional collection staff or increasing vehicle emissions. By using the green bin, households now divert 30 per cent of their waste from the landfill. A further 30 per cent is diverted through the recyclables collected in the blue box and yellow recycling bag.



Recycling
to a nearby
recycling facility



Garbage
to landfill



Food waste
kept separate

Food waste collected in a split packer truck is offloaded at the Transfer Station or composting facility. On garbage days the compartment containing curbside garbage will be offloaded into separate bays at the transfer station or directly at the landfill. The trucks tip the recyclables at the Progressive Waste Solutions facility for sorting.



ILLEGAL DUMPING

Illegal dumping has been a long-standing concern in the Regional District of Nanaimo. In 2014, 27 tonnes of illegally dumped material was recovered and disposed of appropriately.

Although it represents only .0002 per cent of the total solid waste generated in the region, **illegally dumped material can have serious effects on the environment**, wildlife habitat and the ability of others to use and enjoy outdoor recreational areas.

By dumping illegally, violators create a problem that costs everyone in the region. The RDN is taking several steps to combat and prevent illegal dumping, including funding the clean-up of disposal sites and allocating staff time to carry out illegal dumping surveillance, prevention, education and enforcement activities.

Yard waste is still waste. Disposing of yard and garden waste anywhere other than at an approved facility is illegal dumping. Waste attracts other waste and illegal dumping encourages other similar activity.

Help combat illegal dumping by Observing, Recording and Reporting.

If you witness illegal dumping, call the Province’s Report Poachers and Polluters number 1-877-952-7277 (1-877-952-RAPP) or #7277. You can also report a violation through their online form – www.env.gov.bc.ca/cos

Illegal dumping in the Regional District of Nanaimo (outside the municipalities of Nanaimo, Parksville, Qualicum Beach and Lantzville) can also be reported to RDN Bylaw Services by calling (250) 390-6559 or 1-877-607-4111 (toll-free). The RDN is pleased to work with community groups on local clean-up projects.

GREEN BIN TIPS TO MAKE YOUR SUMMER A BREEZE HELPFUL WAYS TO PREVENT ODOURS AND PESTS

Summer has arrived, bringing with it an abundance of local fresh fruit, vegetables, and seafood. Remember, any food item or food spoiled paper that goes to waste can easily be recycled in your green bin. During warm weather, food waste decomposes faster, so here are some tips to prevent odours and pests:

Give it a wrap!



Wrap your wet food waste in a paper towel, newspaper, empty milk cartons or cereal boxes to **reduce moisture and odours**, and prevent nuisances.

Cool it!



When the weather is hot, freezing your food waste can reduce odours and pests. **Keep a small compostable liner, paper bag or empty milk carton in your freezer** to store cooking grease, bones, and leftover meat and fish scraps. Don't forget to add them to your green bin on collection day.

Keep it clean!

Hose out your green bin regularly to remove any food particles and reduce odours, minimize flies and other pests. You can also wash your kitchen catcher and green bin with hot water and bio-degradable detergent.



look for these logos

Put a lid on it!



Avoid leaving food waste exposed by keeping your green bin and kitchen catcher lids tightly closed.

Be Aware!

If your home is located in an area frequented by bears and other pests, remember to:

- Store your green bin and garbage container **in a secure location** and keep the lids latched.
- Take containers to the curb **on the morning of your collection day**. Don't leave them out overnight.
- Deodorize the lid and exterior of your green bin with **Lysol or bleach solution** to prevent food odours from attracting wildlife.
- For more tips, see the "**Preventing Problems with Bears**" on the Curbside Collection Guidelines at www.rdn.bc.ca



... and don't forget!

You can use **permanent marker to write your address** on your green bin



Compostable liners

You can place food waste directly into your kitchen catcher or green bin but be prepared to rinse or wash the container as needed. If you choose to use a liner bag, please ensure the liners are certified compostable by checking for one of these logos **on the package**.



Make it a
1

GREEN SUMMER

Curbside Collection Reminders!



DON'T MISS YOUR COLLECTION DAY THIS SUMMER

Curbside collection schedules follow an add-a-day system. After each statutory holiday your collection day will advance by one day. The collection day reminder feature can ensure you stay on top of collection days and always have your material at the curb on the right day.

- Sign up for **personalized reminders** via email, phone call, or Twitter
- Import your personalized collection schedule to your online **iCal, Outlook or Google Calendar**
- Download the **free mobile app** from the App Store or Google Play
- View, download or print your personalized collection schedule



Visit www.rdn.bc.ca and click on the Curbside Collection link to get started. If you prefer, we can help you set up a reminder – just give us a call or send an email. For residents of the Town of Qualicum Beach, visit the Town's website (www.qualicumbeach.com) or call the Town office at (250) 752-6921.

RECYCLING FOR GARDENERS

Gardeners, did you know that your plastic plant pots and seedling trays are **accepted in your curbside recycling** now? **Shake out the soil or potting mix residue** and place them at the curb in your blue box on collection day.

Many gardeners throughout the region find backyard composting an effective way to turn their yard and garden waste into a beneficial material that can be reapplied to the soil. The Solid Waste pages of the **RDN website have useful information on home composting systems** as well as information on where to purchase backyard composters. If you have green waste you can't compost, options include self-hauling the waste to a transfer station or private green waste recycler, or contacting one of the local companies who provide this service.

More information on disposing Yard and Garden Waste is available at the Solid Waste pages of the RDN website (www.rdn.bc.ca).



HAVE YOU HEARD OF "GRASSCYCLING"?

Grasscycling simply means leaving clippings on the lawn after mowing. It's a great way to reduce yard waste, **return nutrients to the lawn** and save water, time and money. To grasscycle, let your lawn grow at least three inches high. Cut it by one inch and **let the clippings do their work**, returning water, nitrogen and phosphorus to the turf.



*Why not cut it high
and let it lie!*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: zerowaste@rdn.bc.ca

www.beyondcomposting.ca or www.rdn.bc.ca

Regional District of Nanaimo, Solid Waste Services

6300 Hammond Bay Rd., Nanaimo, BC V9T 6N2

Ph. (250) 390-6560 or 1-877-607-4111 (Toll-free)

Beyond Composting

zerowaste

